

CALIFORNIA GARDEN



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November, 1919

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Windbreaks *and* Memory Groves

New Federal Plant Quarantine

Pickings *and* Peckings

Scientific Plant Study

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The California Garden

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No. 5

BE A MISSIONARY

There are many kinds of missionaries—both good and bad. There is the familiar kind which teaches the scriptures to the heathen, and mayhap the use of soap besides. There are missionaries in the business world too. A man was in our office the other day representing a certain brand of automobile tires, and said he didn't care very much whether he sold any, in that he considered he had accomplished a good deal if he could make the name of this tire a household or rather a garage word. He was a missionary. Then there are these coyotes whom our government finds it necessary to restrain in their propaganda spreading activities. These wild eyed, long haired, deformed souled individuals of low mentality and low ideals are missionaries,—of an opposite sort. Then, by way of a pleasing contrast, there is that type of mis-

sionary who spreads the gospel of good gardening. He or she, it is most often the latter, we opine, operates in various ways. One is simply by growing good trees, flowers, plants, vegetables, whatever it may be. That in itself is valuable propaganda for the "cause", but it is limited in its scope—it reaches only those who see the particular garden. There is another species of this genus of missionary who shows the products of his or her garden where opportunity presents. This beneficial species of propagandist carries a flower or two to a friend to demonstrate what may be grown in this favored portion of the globe. Then there are those who carry the same idea and the specimen further and bring both to the Floral Association meetings and to the flower shows, so that a large number of people may be encouraged to go and do likewise. More power to their elbow.

GROW YOUR OWN GARDEN

There is a certain kind of satisfaction to be derived from "growing your own" which cannot be obtained in any other way. Professional gardeners or florists have a large place in garden affairs, but they can only give you the finished product—the joy of production you must obtain for yourself through your own personal efforts in that direction. It is no more possible to do that kind of gardening by proxy than it is possible to eat by proxy. Probably there is a sort of soul or mind nourishment resultant from this "personal gardening" which is comparable to bodily sustenance obtained from food, and which does not come thru a process of deputization.

However, this dissertation should not be interpreted to mean that our view of this

gardening thing would be that professional gardeners should not be employed except as a last resort. There are certain realms of garden activity which are no place for an amateur. Imagine for example, the result of an amateur attempt to create a Japanese garden.

If a professional gardener be employed, let your effort supplement his. You will have more garden, you will have the benefit of expert assistance, and yet you will be able to put your metaphorical finger on certain trees, plants or flowers and say "I did it", and that they probably wouldn't have been there if you had not given your own time, thought and energy to bringing them into being.

Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD

The following article or whatever you choose to style it was prepared for The Garden last June but a certain official no longer connected with the publication pigeonholed it and only dug it up within the last month. It is given without any alteration so that my chance of being in the "I told you so" class may not be jeopardized.

That the Gods look with favor on my efforts to substitute controlled rainfall for our present system of irrigation is evidenced by the storm of October 24 for they gave my locality the top of Point Loma two inches and twenty hundreds measured in a standard gauge against the three-quarters of an inch of the city of San Diego and this season I have had over three inches against the official one and thirty-one hundreds of the unbelieving community across the bay.



TAKE it that it will be generally conceded that the rains are over for this season and it is safest and best now to irrigate and think about the next fall. I have just come across a matter that seems to indicate that we put off our rain operations, whether they be of the Hatfield variety or merely ardent wishes or prayers, till much too late. This matter which I will quote verbatim later on suggests that rain should be bred like chickens or anything else and that clouds of the male and female persuasion are the foundation stock, the period of gestation being six months. This is extremely fascinating. No one has at present claimed clouds as their peculiar property and so far as I know they don't eat hay or grain; further, there is no correspondence course in cloud mating and the government experts have not issued any theoretical pamphlets. Doubtless a thousand other good reasons will occur to the average mind which would enhance the value of this new opening for the failure at everything else and the chickens would get a rest.

Perhaps I had better quote right off before you get too mystified. The following is taken from OLD DIARY LEAVES By Henry Steele Olcott, Co-Founder of the Theosophical Society with H. P. Blavatsky.

"In the January THEOSOPHIST of the year 1888 appeared a notable report on certain meteorological observations made in Baroda State, India according to the system laid down by the ancient Rishis, as found in that classic of Astrology the BRIHAT SAMHITA, which was very important.

"It was made by that excellent gentleman and staunch Theosophist, Mr. Janardhan Sakhararam Gadgil, F. T. S., a graduate of Bombay University, and a Justice of the Baroda High Court, and Rao Sahib Bhogilal Pravalabhdas, Director of Vernacular Education of that State, with the help of Joshi Uttamram Durlabharam and his pupils. Judge Gadgil's object was to test the ancient system of weather forecast in comparison with those made from day to day by the Government Weather Bureau, using the most improved instruments and the accessory of the electric telegraph to gather in the daily minutes of many scattered observers. The results were, on the whole, highly gratifying, and may be tabulated thus:

Rain predictions, exactly fulfilled on the day	30
Ditto, but with a shifting of dates.....	10
Days on which rain fell but was not predicted	11
Rainfalls when the dates were not accurately determined owing to Mr. Gadgils absence from home.....	7
Total	58

To understand this, it must be remembered that the Hindu almanac-makers issue their predictions in the previous autumn, and derive them from patient observations of astronomical positions at that time, the results of which stellar aspects are calculated with great accuracy according to a theory quite unknown I believe, to our Western astronomers and meteorologists. The ancient theory is that clouds are positive and negative, male and female; that the latter become fecundated by conjunction with the former, and that they will shed rain six and a half months later (vide BRIHAT SAMHITA, chap XXI. shloka 7). It is there quaintly affirmed that "if pregnant clouds appear when the moon is in a certain Asterism, the delivery of rain will occur 195 days after, when the moon will be in the same Asterism". By close observation, therefore, of the number and places of clouds on the days beginning from the first of the bright half of the lunar month Margasirsha (November-December), the Indian almanac-makers safely predict the days and quantities of rainfall during the next monsoon season, a half-year later. Judge Gadgil printed tables of dates and measured rainfalls which go to support the claim of the Rishi rules to be regarded as strictly scientific. The late Prof.

Kero Laxman C. Hatre, the great Poona astronomer, wrote that the predictions were wonderful in his sight. The facts accumulated prove, in Judge Gadgil's opinion, that 'although the sun is the chief cause of the evaporation of water, the moon is the potent factor in causing watery vapour to assume the form of pregnant clouds which at their maturity, are to fall in the form of rain, and to fructify the earth'.

The net result of two years comparison of the almanac prognostics with those of the Government Weather Bureau showed them to be of equal accuracy, while, as regards the cost of statistical collection, the comparison is, of course, very greatly in favor of the Indian system. Let us hope that this field may soon be properly explored.

I am dreadfully sorry I had not found this matter when Hatfield coincided with the flood in '13. He was bothered just what to style himself when I interviewed him and I dared

not suggest what came into my mind but of course he was, perhaps is, a Cloud Obstetrician and had that been on his business stationery he might have collected mileage at least from the city.

I must not be understood as making fun of this latest discovery of mine bearing on Rain-making—I am perfectly confident that it lies in the immediate future as a generally accepted possibility, history supports the contention that it is in the eternal scheme of things that ALL Nature's forces are to finally acknowledge man's domination, and it will come quickly when humanity gets through playing with that grossly inefficient extravagant compromise irrigation. To show my faith I predict a very wet November and December for I have never had a finer flock of clouds in my back yard than during the last May and if their grazing is good between now and then just look out for the deluge.

Snails and Other Things

By CONSTANCE BOWERS

Here's what one snail-cursed victim is trying out, and so far there are little rays of relief shining through the chewed-up growth:

Evening-time she sprinkles the foliage of several bushes or plants that won't resent the water on their leaves, and on which the snails or slugs can feed without causing the gardener much heart-ache. Coreopsis, Golden Glow and Swainsonia are great snail rendezvous. But—our fooler of snails carefully avoids getting any moisture on or around anything "precious".

In the early morning while the over-fed Mr. Snail is still nibbling and thanking you for the banquet, politely pluck him off your snail trap and pop him into a pan for the chicks, or to dispose of in some other manner.

This young lady thinks she has fooled her snail population pretty well—so far—but doesn't really mean to brag for fear they'll catch on and start to fooling her.

Keep all surplus undergrowth cleared out. Cut off all the low growing leaves on dahlias, etc., that aren't necessary and which attract snails. Your garden may have a rather short-skirted appearance, but it will help toward decreasing the snails and slugs.

Never try to start sweet peas until the weather is cool; cold nights at least. They just won't grow no matter how you coax them. If they do come up, they will sadly fade away.

This applies especially to the winter-flowering sort which are advertised as Christmas-blooming.

You never gain anything by planting too

early. By early, we mean August or early September. The middle of September and on into October and November is best. For spring or summer flowering sorts plant in October, November and December and not later than January to best results. Remember you can't raise sweet peas when the weather gets hot. So strike the happy medium.

Don't expect the finest sweet peas if you plant against a house or board fence. They will "burn". North and South rows are, of course, the best on account of the even distribution of sun.

We have lately been surprised at the number of folks who don't understand what disbudding will produce and who, when they see us carefully pinching off all save one bud to a stem on carnations, ask in shocked tones, "WHAT are you doing?"

By dis-budding to a reasonable extent one may have finer blooms and a longer blooming period from most any plant.

Whenever possible pick a flower with a long stem, unless, of course, it will ruin your plant or bush. But don't be afraid of cutting off a few buds. As a rule, flowers are on new growth. To produce new growth, prune or trim.

So pick your flowers with long stems and see the new vigor in the plant.

Somebody may say, "I don't want long stems on them; they're for a low bowl!"

Cut the stems off!

Commence now to grow material for the Spring Flower Show.

Windbreaks and Memory Groves

By G. H. HECKE, State Commissioner of Horticulture



HIS question of windbreaks has been promoted and fostered at intervals by communities and by State officers, but the conditions today call for concerted action and systematic effort in order that these enormous losses shall be reduced.

It is natural that the State should foster and promote a State-wide problem of such magnitude and importance, but it is necessary also that the co-ordinated effort of every citizen, farmer and fruit grower shall be brought into play if the maximum good is to result.

In addition to the great value of the windbreak as a factor making for the protection of early crops and in safeguarding more mature plantings of gardens, fruit and grain from the effects of heat or wind violence, the windbreak has other features which will strongly recommend it to the practical mind. It is assumed, of course, that in planting windbreaks the farmer, rancher, or fruit grower will seek advice as to trees best suited to his locality and conditions, as well as a scheme for setting out in rows.

In a comparatively short time the average windbreak will constitute a valuable source of fuel supply and under proper conditions, also some of the plantings when thinned or trimmed will suffice for fence posts.

We have now reached the state in our agricultural economy where the windbreak, in addition to being a thing of beauty, is an agricultural necessity. There is possibly no question of greater importance to the Sacramento Valley farmer than that of the installation and maintenance of adequate windbreaks, the growing and maintenance of which are both practical and feasible in all parts of the State.

While it is not possible to estimate with any degree of accuracy the loss occasioned by the lack of properly located windbreaks, it must be apparent even to the uninformed that the attendant losses mount to colossal figures.

Throughout the fruit-growing and farming districts today, in situations where no windbreaks tempered the heated, swirling north winds that swept the valley in the last week in May, much grain is shaken from the heads and the immature fruit is threshed off the trees. In many other sections of the State north winds are constant and prevail each year from a given quarter, and this may be taken as the index to the proper location of the safe-guarding windbreak.

Aside from the unprecedented fruit drop and the shriveling of the grain these drying winds contribute enormous losses through the attendant depreciation of soil moisture.

Orchards must be protected from the effects of the winds, which strike the trees when they are laden with fruit, as well as from drying effects of winds, which scald the fruit and cause it to shrink.

A lack of adequate shade to protect livestock represents a low state in the economy of the stock business and all who have seen animals seeking relief in the meagre shade of fences and fence corners will appreciate the large importance of trees where livestock are kept.

As is well known, a grove of trees modifies the temperature of the air in the vicinity; in the daytime the air is cooler than on the outside and at night the heat waves radiated from the ground are intercepted and the air under the trees is warmer than that prevailing on the outside.

It is particularly fitting at this time, and it has been suggested, that the memory of our overseas dead in the great war be perpetuated in groves of trees, and truly no more beautiful expression of the idea is possible, but why should not this be done as a state-wide movement and the memory of California's soldier dead become a living blessing to the posterity for which they died?

*Commence Now
to Grow Material for
the Spring Flower
Show*



The November Flower Garden

By MARY MATTHEWS

BULBS

BULBS have always been especial favorites of mine, as I think they are with most flower lovers. There is a peculiar charm and interest in growing them—there is such endless variety in habit, size, color. They are easily cared for if a few general rules are followed. They come up, make their growth and bloom, then retire 'till the next season. Also the majority of them give a generous increase, especially with us here in San Diego. All imported bulbs being offered by florists this season were brought in prior to June 1, 1919, naturally their stock of these things is short, and another season we will have to depend upon home supply. So, as has been said before, we ought all of us to preserve what stock we have on hand and increase it. Among those excluded by Federal Quarantine No. 37 are the following which grow and flourish in San Diego gardens.—Amenones, Allium, Babiana, Anomateca Cruenta (scarlet Freesia), Gladioli,—all varieties; Iris,—Spanish and English, Ixias, Leucajum or snowflake, Oxalis, Ornithogalums (star of Bethlehem) Ranunculus—Sparaxis, Tritonia and Triteleia. Whether this is a just or unjust ruling, remains to be seen. Personally, I can see good in it, tho why Lilies with their open scale formation—an invitation to disease and insect pests should come in, while bulbs with a perfectly smooth, hard surface, absolutely protected, are excluded I cannot see. Bulbs will grow and bloom in almost any soil, but if the ground is prepared with care beforehand they will give much finer blooms. For a bulb bed the soil should be dug out to a depth of at least 18 inches. In the bottom should be put a solid layer of well decayed stable manure, then fill in with the soil well mixed with sand and a little bone meal. Fill up the bed with the balance of soil. The surface of the bed when finished should be slightly raised,—never leave depressions in the beds as these will hold surplus water and ruin many fine bulbs. The depth and distance apart to plant varies with the different species. A rule used by some is to plant to the depth of three times the average diameter of the bulbs. As soon as the bulbs begin to push through, a surface coating of pulverized sheep manure is very beneficial. When the flower stalks appear, a dusting of wood ashes, and when the flowers show color a very little

dry nitrate of soda. Don't forget water at this time. For the flower garden, bulbs are most effective when set in little colonies here and there in the hardy border or under trees and shrubs. Here they can remain for several seasons. Add a good handful of bone meal each season—this is really the safest to apply at all times. Where bulbs are planted in this way you need not hesitate to cut the blooms, as this causes the nourishment for next season's bloom to go into the bulbs instead of spending their energy in forming seeds.

Of all bulbs grown in San Diego gardens, Narcissus are possibly the greatest favorites, beginning with the Polyanthus or Bunch flowered, which are classed as tender elsewhere, then the trumpets, of which there are numerous kinds on through to the poeticus type, the last of all to bloom. Among the early ones come the sweet scented Jonquils.

Late Tulips can be grown successfully one season, but the bulbs are hard to carry through. Where one wants a few fine ones it is better to buy new each year. Spanish Iris grow well, and ought to increase. Ornithogalums, Freesias, Oxalis, Alliums, all grow and bloom wherever they can gain a foothold. Bermuda Oxalis are a positive nuisance in my yard. Ranunculus, Anemones, and Freesias can all be increased in a short time from seed. Lilies are a chapter in themselves—too long to be gone into in this article, but do not fail to try the newer Lilium Henryii, called the yellow speciosum, deep orange yellow, banded with green, and Lilium Regale with white flowers shaded with pink. The price of these is now within the reach of slender purses, or if you are a collector you can try the new and rare lily Willmotiae, also the Sargentiae. These, like the Henryii was collected by Mr. Wilson in China. The price of them is large, but they are said to grow and flourish like weeds. Some years ago various collectors announced that the bulb world was practically exhausted in new things. Since then Mr. Wilson has gone into China and brought us these fine lilies, also the beautiful little bulbous Corydalis. The Primulinus Gladioli have been brought from South Africa. These, with the ordinary Gladiolus, and the very early small flowered ones will give us a planting practically throughout the year.

Plant bulbs now for the Bulb Show

Scientific Plant Study

By FIDELLA G. WOODCOCK

 N order to make democracy safe for the world there are four elements that can be learned now and forever to preserve the equilibrium of the human mind with its material progress—the proper relations of living organism to meet the living response of earth, of air, of heat, of moisture. Everything that grows has a spirit of some sort and it is the spiritual divinity of law and progress that brings outgrowth to better results.

While we are working for perfect pinks and perfect tomatoes and the right combination of influences to make them so, there is a hidden hope that the secret of perfection will appear somewhere in the circumstances or in the surroundings. But it never will, for the greatest thing in producing is proportion or division of essentials to the needs of the kind that one wishes to produce. This possibly is more noticeable in plants, being stationary, than in animals that can move about and make their own choices. To produce a plant variation there is nearly always a sacrifice of one essential organ at the expense of another, or at least the forces that usually act on each part of a flower to make it what it is concentrate on the part that we wish to develop.

Double flowers are ornamenteally beautiful, but the race of plants would die if all flowers were forced to transform their stamens into petals for the sake of mere luxury. The double Hibiscus now so effective in the walks and gardens shows marked reversion to the single type merely because nature governs by essentials and there is a constant pulling backward to normal types rather than advance forward to the highly cultivated ones.

Hibiscus sinensis (Chinese Hibiscus) becomes Hibiscus sinensis *flora-pleno* under strong culture, but without close attention to diet its showy double row of petals in about a year and a half go back to one row of petals and to the same column of stamens that it had in the beginning. All of the forms and shades of *flora-sinensis*—deep red, carmine, pale rose, salmon-pink, show that, however lavish nature is when she can afford to be in climates that, like that of California, can raise flowers and fruit for the whole world, economy is the basis of wealth that in our complex life means so much. No longer is the simple life enough for all of our wants, although it is the main support—yet it leads to over production—that in complex civilization can be used for creating higher developments.

Unusually large seedlings, as of pansies that measure more than an inch or an inch and a half in diameter never produce seeds from

lack of pollen development, the vitality is used in producing a vigorous growth of the attractive color expense. While the study of technique reduces all our knowledge to a few simple facts, technical descriptions are often such mere skeletons that we turn with an unsatisfied hunger from books to living plants and their unwearying efforts to adapt themselves to all sorts and conditions of human neglect, wondering how so well they survive.

One of the greatest faults in scientific practice is that the study of plants in restricted localities are given as a record for all time. Within a few feet of each other the same species of palm or other trees show light exposure effects that change the appearances of the whole habit. There is a want of adequate material to work out the problems of plants in the field that a single specimen, however typical, cannot give. Scientists can well afford specimens of variation to determine what are the real characters to be observed in any one species and in the way of character study plant life that is constantly changing from the re-arrangement of the surface of the earth is not exactly as it was in the time of original discovery. Other things being equal, in the way of natural surroundings, plant forms can be varied without loss to suit individual tastes by simplest knowledge of associate groups that grow well together.

Eastern Gardening Methods

By G. R. Gorton

Fast trains and a spirit of cordial fellowship have considerably shortened the distance between the East and this Western country of ours, but as far as gardening procedure is concerned—"The east is east, and the west is west, and never shall the twain be one". Unless they profit by the forewarning of their friends, eastern gardeners—good ones, too,—come here and blithely start out to "raise garden" a la New England or Michigan or Illinois or wherever they are from. The results would bring tears to the eyes of a cigar store Indian. While they realize that they are miles from their home state they do not realize how widely apart are eastern gardening methods from those of the west. Soil conditions are different, atmospheric and other climatic conditions are as different as day and night. We lack, in Southern California, both the humidity in the air, and the natural moisture in the soil; we lack the summer rainfall; we have instead, drying winds and hotter suns to hasten evaporation of what artificial moisture is supplied. This feature is very deceptive, especially along the coast. It

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The Vegetable Garden

By WALTER BIRCH



ENCOURAGED by the late good rain with more to follow, most people who have a garden will now get busy. If you find that the rain has not soaked down from one to two feet, make some furrows two to three feet apart and let the water run long enough to thoroughly wet the subsoil. When dry enough to dig without being sticky, apply some well rotted manure, and if your land is clayey, add a few pounds of slacked lime and dig in to a depth of from 10 to 12 inches. Do not prepare your ground in a hurried or careless manner, but take your time and do it thoroughly, and if necessary a small strip at a time. In order to retain moisture, allow for proper root growth, and necessary cultivation, it is essential that the ground be deeply spaded and thoroughly worked. There is nothing more disappointing than too hurried preparation and the resultant poor crop, so the aim should be a smaller garden with the work thoroughly done.

It is a common mistake to plant the seed too deep. Small seeds should always be planted in a good seed bed, that is to say, on ground that has been thoroughly worked up and fined down to an even surface, pressed down enough so that there are no air spaces,

the seeds being planted about a quarter of an inch deep.

If your ground has been thoroughly soaked there will be moisture enough in the soil to bring the seed well up without the application of any more moisture until the plants show up well above the surface.

Should the weather remain dry after the plants have started, be sure that the ground never lacks moisture enough to promote healthy growth, as at this stage of the game a little neglect spells failure.

Beans and peas at this time of the year should be planted from 1 to 2 inches deep. Canadian Wonder and Broad Windsor Beans make a good winter crop, but you can plant any pea that you fancy from dwarf to tall.

Keep on planting all the hardy vegetable seeds, almost everything being in season except vine seed, peppers, etc.

November is an excellent month to set out your Strawberry plants for spring berries, also horseradish and rhubarb roots and of course, all the other plants like Cabbage, Kale etc. Plant Chicken Lettuce and Essex rape now, for your poultry, they are both excellent for winter and spring crop. In the flower garden most of the bulbs are in season, and continue planting Winter Sweet Peas and a host of other flower seeds.

The New Federal Plant Quarantine

By Frederick Maskew, Chief Deputy Quarantine Officer, State Dept. of Agriculture

The attention of growers, nurserymen, florists and others interested is directed to the fact, that on June 1st, 1919, a new Federal Plant Quarantine went into effect under No. 37. Other special quarantines prohibiting entirely the importation of specific plants and plant products from certain countries or localities remain in effect.

Under the regulations of Notice of Quarantine No. 37 importation of such materials as are permissible for propagation can only be made under permits issued by the Federal Horticultural Board, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. All those contemplating the importation of plants or plant products intended for propagation should communicate with the Federal Horticultural Board, for permits and detailed information.

The following classes of nursery stock and other plants, and seeds, (except particular

nursery stock, fruit, plants and seeds, which are governed by special quarantines and other restrictive orders now in force) may be imported without permit:

(1) Fruits, vegetables, cereals and other plant products imported for medicinal, food or manufacturing purposes.

(2) Field, vegetable and flower seeds.

The following nursery stock and other plants and seeds (excepting those governed by special quarantine orders now in force) when free from sand, soil or earth, may be imported from countries which maintain inspection, under permit upon compliance with these regulations, but, where a particular purpose is specified, for that purpose and no other:

(1) Lily bulbs, lily of the valley, narcissus, hyacinths, tulips and crocus.

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Journeyings

By F. C. ARTER



OST folks like to bore their friends by recounting their newly acquired knowledge or experiences after a trip from home, hence this infliction on the Garden family. I have just returned from a prolonged sojourn on the borders of the 'Frisco bay and found the late numbers of the Garden awaiting me, and of course lost no time in getting at their contents. I note with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret the changes made in its policies and its personnel. I offer congratulations and condolence without stint or discrimination, and may they apply where best they fit.

I bowed down from Oakland over the state highways by easy stages (referring to the frequent stopovers, rather than to the easy riding qualities of the stages, which were all that could be desired.)

Any one who feels himself growing narrow and provincial in his attitude towards things beyond his little horizon would do well to take a trip, by stage preferably, up through the state. It will broaden and clarify his vision and reveal to him some of the things the "other fellow" is doing.

I spent the first night under a sheet at Fresno, the metropolis of the San Joaquin Valley. The word Fresno is derived from the Greek word *freesono*, and means: "did not freeze." We began the next day's journey after frequent imbibings at the fountain of youth—soda fountains—in an effort to start the day under normal temperature. Stopping off at Visalia to renew old acquaintances and note the changes made in the lapse of years since the booze palaces were put in limbo, and great was it indeed.

The second night was spent on a sheet at Bakersfield, which is one, one and a half or two degrees different from Fresno. It was a Saturday night, and this town is no sleepy town on a Saturday night in fruit harvest. The word Bakersfield, I think, is taken from the Hottentot dialect, and means: *baked or stewed*.

There is a question as to the advisability of planting nut-bearing trees along the highways. There is something in the moral make-up of the average traveler that permits him to take a proprietary interest in all flowers, fruits and nuts growing along his pathway.

Speaking of nuts reminds me: I found a new variety of nut in the 'Frisco bay region that has not, as yet, been fully identified or classified by the scientists. I was aware of California's very diverse sectional products; Santa Barbara is noted for her English walnuts, Ventura for her beans, Imperial for her cantelopes, and San Diego for her climate,

other sections for this and that particular soil product, and now the counties clustering around the San Francisco bay is developing an industry which is unique in horticulture, or rather in floriculture—the production of **Dahlia Nuts**. This new nut may be grown from the seed to maturity in from one to three years, depending largely upon its environment, its temperament, and also upon the results of its first appearance at a public exhibition. The fates decreed that I should leave this favored region just on the eve of the great Dahlia Show to be held at the Palace Hotel, else, no doubt, I should have had the pleasure of seeing a few matured specimens of this new nut.

I will confess this is all hearsay with me. My informant was a dahlia enthusiast, but talked rationally on most subjects. Many of us are beset with hallucinations at times. I am told that there are three kinds of dahlia growers: **Enthusiasts, Cranks and Nuts**. I am charitable enough to place my informant in Class A, but would counsel moderation if he would retain his present rating.

While I regretted very much to miss the big show in the north, I was greatly delighted on bumping into Mr. Sies' "one man show" on my arrival home. I am glad to note the fact that there is at least one dahlia lover (belonging to neither of the above groups) who has returned to her home in the north with the conviction that San Diego stands 50-50 with the competitors in this line of endeavor.

I noted with interest, at a number of places along the highways there had been set out young shade trees along its borders. They are, as yet, a rather inconspicuous feature of the landscape, but in a few years will add much to the pleasure of travel. Referring to two articles in the August number of the Garden, in reference to tree planting along the state highways. The Michigan laws favoring the planting of nut-bearing and other food-producing shade trees, while our own council, by resolution, has indorsed the idea of planting trees, just trees, without specifying kinds. Planting trees along our public highways is a commendable thing to do; but let me raise this sign, **Danger, Sound Claxon!** It is one thing to work ourselves up to the point of setting out a lot of trees along the roads, or in our back yards, but it is quite another thing to take the proper care of them in our arid sections, where they are most needed. There are plenty of examples of neglected trees on all sides to justify a word of warning. I did not observe any nut-bearing or food-producing shade trees along the way. The acacias, sycamore and conifer trees seemed to predominate.

The October Meeting



THE regular meeting of the Floral Association was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Blochman, on First and Thorn, the meeting opening with a talk on bulbs by Mrs. Darling of Chula Vista.

It was interesting to learn what had been accomplished in our county in making the raising of the Polyanthus Narcissus a remunerative undertaking. One variety, for example commonly known as the Chinese lily, they require little care and Mrs. Darling has had orders for bulbs of both the single and double flowering types in quantity from the East. Buyers are beginning to appreciate the fact that bulbs may be grown well in the West.

The tulip best suited to our climate is *Gesneriana*. Nearly all bulbs, including the tulip which sends its flower stalks from the bulb, should be planted four inches below the surface of the earth as they require a strong root growth, while the Crinums should be left with part of the bulb above the surface.

The Ranunculus is best dug up three weeks after it ceases to bloom and left with the dirt adhering to the bulblets and kept until next season in a dry place. In connection with making a commercial success with plants that are easily grown, geraniums and the two common varieties of Asparagus, *Sprengerii* and *Plumosus*, may be raised profitably for the Eastern markets.

in winter.

Following Mrs. Darling's talk the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved and we were then accorded the pleasure of listening to a paper by Miss Matthews, who for years has been a successful grower of bulbs and one to whom many Floral Association members have turned for advice. She furnished the prospective bulb grower with a wealth of information concerning where, when and how to plant. Let us hope that Mrs. Darling's and Miss Matthews' talks will show their effect in a greater profusion of blossoms in our gardens this coming Spring.

Specimens brought to our meetings are a valuable asset, as they keep us in touch with rather new introductions which may be added to the great variety of plants which may be cultivated with success in our advantageous climate as well as the better known species which are now being successfully grown. Miss Sessions spoke of the *Mina Lobata*, which though not new, is a vine of easy growth, an annual, which bears an extremely decorative blossom shading from yellow to red. It keeps well when cut. The seed was first introduced

from Mexico, as were our annual morning-glories. An effort should be made by all Floral Association members to grow at least one plant each season of the blue morning-glory known as "Heavenly Blue". This may be seen to advantage climbing around the base of the palms at Mission Cliff Gardens during the season. They should be planted in May. It is interesting to note that owing to the climatic conditions they do not seed as prolifically as they do in their natural environment. The *Calliandra* blossom was shown. This shrub which may be grown from cuttings bears a rather thistle-like white flower which opens late in the afternoon. The leaves close as the flowers open. Its perfume, like the Night Blooming Jasmine, is only discernible at night. The Mexican Mock-orange, *Choisya Ternata*, which is grown in profusion in Pasadena and about Los Angeles, is well adapted to our climate as it needs but little water. The leaves are shiny, and the blossoms similar to that of the orange tree. White flowers seem to have predominated, as the *Syringa*, *Philadelphus Sempervirens*, also occupied a place in the modest show of blooms. This vine is of rapid and easy growth, blossoms practically the entire years and its perfume is quite fit for the gods.

Some unsuspecting person wished to be enlightened as to the charms of the novelty, the vegetable bean, only to learn from Mr. Lawrence that he had raised it 40 years ago and did not consider it worthy of space in a respectable garden. We heard from another member of how in the East she paid the large sum of \$2.50 for a "Weather Indicator" which was to prove, in the light of the world be promotor, the wonder of the age. Shortly after, the purchasers came to California and almost the first thing which attracted her eye and that of her husband was a field of *Filarée* (*Erodium Cicutarium*) "Oh," he remarked, "this is the home of the "Weather Indicator".

Mr. Gorton called for an expression of opinion concerning holding a bulb show. It was practically decided that it would be held at the home of one of the members and made a social occasion, to which we would ask our friends. No attempt would be made to hold it on a large scale.

The Committee appointed by Mr. Gorton to confer with the School Board consists of Mr. Blochman, Chairman, Miss Sessions and Mr. Hieatt.

The meeting adjourned and those present wandered about for a time in the Mr. and Mrs. Blochman's delightful garden.

Progressive Agriculture of Today

Foreshadowed by Bacon

By B. A. Reynolds, Editor, State Dept. of Agriculture

"A work meant, not for praise or glory, but for practice and the good of man."

So sang the bard, Francis Bacon, Baron Verulam, three hundred years ago, when he presented King James with his work *Novum Organum*—in fine, that the pen was the more potent, and his message would outlive the graven stone reared in an hour of victorious frenzy to some conquering, but now all-obliterated, nameless king. And what spirit can uplift or what ideal illuminate like that spirit which inspired such works—dedicated to "practice and the good of man"!

A study of Bacon's recorded works discloses the author as a gigantic luminary opening the gates to intellectual development which was not to be fully realized until 300 years after his death. In his letter to King James he says "Even in your time many noble inventions may be discovered for man's use".

The great Montagu says "His mind pierced into future contingents".

He could—

"Look into the seeds of Time,
And say which grain would grow—and which
would not!"

Hear the prophetic strokes, that ring like the hammer of Truth on the anvil of Time, lifted from that colossal imagery "The New Atlantis"—

"We do also declare natural divinations of disease, plagues, swarms of hurtful creatures, scarcity, tempests, earthquakes, great inundations, comets, temperature of the year, and divers other things; and we give council thereupon what the people shall do for the prevention and remedy of them!"

Nearly three hundred years have passed since this oracle piercing the vague, shadowy future looked with what gift of foreknowledge we know not—into the very decade in which we now live, A. D. 1919! For do we not now, by "natural divination", declare "future outbreaks of disease, and plagues, and swarms of hurtful insects; and, too, famine, storms, earthquakes, floods, comets, and temperature?"

Did not Francis Bacon foresee our present system of patent rights? He says: "For every inventor we will erect a statute, * * *. * * * we place patterns and samples of all manner of the more rare and excellent inventions?!"

In biological research he foreshadowed Mendel and Darwin, yet to be born: "It would be very difficult to generate new species, but less so to vary known species and thus produce many rare and unusual results!"

Also we must assume that the conception

of the invaluable microscope was familiar to Bacon, for although the Italian Malpighi was "first to apply the microscope in investigating the anatomical structure of plants and animals", he was not born (1628) until after Bacon's death (1626), and in "The New Atlantis" Bacon records "We have also glasses and means to see small and minute bodies perfectly and distinctly, as the shape and colors of small flies and worms, grains and flaws in gems not otherwise to be seen!"

In other works we find him anticipating public gardens of plants and zoological gardens.

In other passages, he discloses a foreknowledge of the circulation of the blood, to be later exploited by Harvey; he first of all records "that heat is motion"; he sees the phonograph of Edison as "sounds carried in pipes and boxes!"

De Quincey has called him "The glory of the human intellect", and we who are today practicing the art of agriculture may well follow closely the precepts he has laid down.

"I am persuaded my work will gain upon men's minds in ages * * * not for praise or glory, but for practice and the good of man"!

Plant Quarantine

Continued from page 7

(2) Stocks, cuttings, scions and buds, of fruits for propagation.

(3) Rose stock for propagation, including Manette, Multiflora, Brier Rose, and Rosa Rugosa.

(4) Nuts, including palm seeds, for propagation.

(5) Seeds of fruit, forest, ornamental and shade trees, seeds of deciduous and evergreen ornamental shrubs and seeds of hardy perennial plants.

Postoffice order dated May 27th, 1913, as amended Dec. 16th, 1913, prohibits the importation by mail of all growing or living plants, seeds, or other plant products for propagation except field, vegetable and flower seeds.

If a package of nursery stock and other plants and seeds offered for entry includes any prohibited article, the entire package will be refused entry.

A year's subscription to the California Garden makes a very appropriate Christmas Gift, and one which you may be sure will be appreciated.

Woodman, Replace That Tree

We reprint below an editorial published some time ago in the San Diego Sun, which we think will bear repeating. It has a message to the public which cannot be too oft reiterated:

Planting Trees

When a tree is cut down, plant another to take its place—somewhere, anywhere.

It costs little or nothing, but it will mean much in wealth and comfort to the next generation.

Within the last few years some of the finest maple groves in the world have been cut down and made up into backs for hair and scrubbing brushes.

This is all right—these trees may be of more social value in the form of brushes than standing timber, but—

Not a tree has been planted to take the place of any that have been cut down, and where, for instance, is the next generation in the brush industry to get its maple lumber?

While extending a principal thoroughfare recently 24 fine elms were cut down.

This had to be done as a matter of public necessity, but not an elm was planted along a sidewalk or in a park, or anywhere to take their places.

* * *

If any of our children left a room and the light burning, or the water running in the bathroom we would duly correct them; for it is a matter of immediate waste which can be clearly seen now, without requiring any vision or imagination.

But in our failure to plant a tree when one is cut down we waste the time in which another tree might be growing and at no expense, and for the benefit of the next generation in wealth and comfort.

* * *

The railroads in the country are bitterly complaining today of the scarcity and high cost of cross ties.

If the railroads would replace one-tenth of the fine oak trees that they cut down and burned up, as a matter of necessity in clearing their original rights of way, why, they would have grown enough cross ties by now for all their extensions and replacements, with enough lumber besides and the sale of which would contribute most liberally to the reduction of their bonded debt.

* * *

In many states there are departments of forestry which supply sprouts of all native varieties of trees, at no cost or small cost, to any citizen who will plant them.

If there is not such a department in all states there should be one.

We forget that while a baby is growing to maturity a tree can be grown to maturity, and for that baby's benefit as a unit of society.

Replacing a tree for one cut down should be done as a matter of public conscience rather than as a matter of statute law.

It should be done out of consideration for the wealth and comfort of the next generation.

Eastern Gardening Methods

Continued from page 6

doesn't seem especially dryer, in fact the frequent fog makes the air seem moister, and so newcomers are misled into thinking that the conditions are not very different, after all. So they proceed to order eastern plants from eastern nurseries, and after they receive and plant them, to water as they did back east, with disastrous results.

This tendency is not confined to amateur gardeners. In fact, those who have spent years in professional gardening in the east are oftentimes the hardest to convert to Southern California practice. The suggestion we offer then, to the newcomer, is to use, for the bulk of his planting material which has been proven to be suitable and then to study irrigation methods of successful **western** gardeners.

Plant Exchange

If you have a surplus of plants or cuttings which you wish to exchange for plants or cuttings of another sort, advertise both what you have and what you want in the Plant Exchange Department of the Garden. The service is free to subscribers. Just drop a card to the California Garden, Pt. Loma, telling us all about it, and we will do the rest.

Plant
Bulbs
Now for
the
Bulb
Show



The California Garden

G. R. Gorton, Editor
Office, 945 Seventh St., San Diego, Cal.

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That Bulb Show

At the last meeting of the Floral Association it was decided to hold an exhibition of bulbous flowers early in the spring,—at a date to be announced later. Help to make this an impressive demonstration of the possibilities of this class of plants, and incidentally give yourself the pleasure which is to be derived from growing these delightful subjects. This exhibition is not to take the place of the regular Rose Show, which will be held later in the spring, and, according to the present plans, is to be the "big show" of the year. By starting now you will have blooms to exhibit at both of these events.

Floral Association Meetings

November—Mrs. Geo. H. Becker, 2434 A St.
December—Mr. F. L. Hieatt, 1825 Sheridan St.
January—Mrs. Frank A. Salmons, 2440 C St.
February—Mrs. N. E. Barker, 306 Walnut St.
March—Mrs. Geo. Marston, 3525 Seventh St.
April—Mrs. L. A. Jones, 4380 Valle Vista.
May—Mrs. Ernest White, 3100 Second St.
June—Annual Meeting.
July—Mrs. C. F. Naylor, 3520 Oregon St.
August—Mrs. W. L. Frevert, 3535 First St.

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The Query Corner

Q. What is the name of the beautiful purple-leaved plant in Mr. A. D. Robinson's garden at Pt. Loma?

A. It is Gynura aurantiaca, and belongs to the Compositae. It is a native of Java, introduced into this country in 1880. The flowers resemble those of Cineraria, and are of a bright orange color, hence its specific name "aurantiaca". This plant is sometimes called "Velvet Plant" or "Peacock Plant", from the iridescent color given to it by the purple-colored hairs on the leaves. It may be grown from cuttings.

Q. My tomatoes seemed stunted and were not doing well. I pulled some of the plants up and found the roots covered with small knots. What can I do to remedy this condition?

A. Your tomatoes are infested with eelworms or nematodes, causing a diseased condition known as Nematode Root Knot. There is no artificial control of any great value.

It will be necessary for you to plant a "non-host" crop, or one which is partially or wholly immune from the attacks of this pest. Corn, Asparagus, Spinach, Onions, most grains and grasses are in this class. This rotation would need to be practiced for about three years to "starve out" the nematodes.

Q. Can Smyrna figs be grown in this locality?

A. This variety does very well here, but requires, as everywhere else, that a Capri fig be planted nearby, to insure nature's process of fertilization known as "Caprifcation", from the fact that flowers the Smyrna, as well as those of the Calimyrna figs are pollinated by one insect only, viz. the Blastophaga wasp, which feeds only on the Capri fig, and which by the way is not edible. No crop will result unless either a Capri fig tree is near, or figs from a Capri fig tree are placed on the edible fig tree at the time when the figs are ready for this process.

The Book Shelf

(Being a partial bibliography, published monthly, and listing garden publications available at the San Diego Public Library.)

Gardening—General

- 710 Bailey—Garden Making.
- 710 Chappell—Garden Don'ts, 1913.
- 710 Humphreys—Practical book of garden architecture.

Gardening—Trees and Lawns.

- 715 Gant—Seaside planting of trees and shrubs, 1907.

Floriculture

- 716 Bisset—Book of water gardening.
- 716 Fish—Bulbs and bulb culture.
- 716 Ravenscript—Begonia culture for amateurs, 1904.

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